

REMARKS

Claims 2 through 5 and 7 through 9 are now pending in this application. Claim 9 stands withdrawn from consideration. Claims 2 through 5 have been rejected. Claims 7 and 8 stand under rejection solely for their dependency from a rejected parent claim.

In response to the Office Action, dated February 3, 2003, claims 2, 5, 7 and 8 have been amended, claims 1 and 6 have been cancelled, and new drawing Figs. 7 and 8 have been submitted. Care has been taken to avoid the introduction of new matter. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited.

Objection has been made to Figs. 7 and 8 of the drawings. Correction has been required to add the legend "Prior Art" to these figures. The newly submitted Figs. 7 and 8 contain the prior art labels.

In response to the objection to claims 7 and 8, these claims have been rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of original claims 1 and 6, from which they had depended. Withdrawal of the objection and allowance of claims 7 and 8 are respectfully solicited.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 5,789,813 (Kirkland). Claims 1 through 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 5,402,077 (Agahdel). Claims 1 and 6 have been cancelled. With respect to the rejection of claims 2 through 5, the Office Action focuses on Figs. 13 and 14 of Agahdel, as set forth at paragraph 8.

In response, claims 2 and 5 have been amended to independent form, including all the limitations of now cancelled claim 1, and further requires that the erect portions of the carrier base be "fixed in a direction perpendicular to the base and fixed with respect to the

outer lid in a rotational direction when the outer lid is engaged with the carrier base." As shown in Fig. 1, for example, erect portions 4b are fixed in a direction perpendicular to the base. When the outer lid 7 is engaged with the carrier base, the erect portions 4b are fixed against further rotational (clockwise direction) movement of the outer lid.

In Agahdel, the corner posts 669 are coupled to bottom stops 667 by springs. The posts are not fixed, nor are they integral with, or part of, the base. As described in the paragraph beginning at column 10, line 5, the top cap must be twisted to engage the undersides of the post tops and force them upwards, thus exerting compression force from the spring for holding the dye in place. This operation requires the corner posts to be initially set at a height below which the upper surface of the top cap will fit and, after being so positioned, permitting the cap to engage with the under surfaces of the corner posts somehow to be force upwards to provide the appropriate spring compression.

The present invention, in contrast, provides appropriately dimensioned projections in the outer lid so that a simple rotation of the outer lid will engage the inside surfaces of stationary erect portions of the base. It is submitted that claims 2 through 5 are patentably distinguishable from the prior art. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 2 through 5 are respectfully solicited.

In summary, it is submitted that all objections and rejections of record have been overcome. Allowance of the application is respectfully solicited.